

**July 31, 2007**

## **The Calvin Ball Bulletin**

A bulletin to keep you and your neighbors informed of current news and happenings in our community. If you do not get this bulletin directly, feel free to email me at [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) and I will be sure to get you on the list.

For more District 2 News go to our website at:  
[www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC\\_DistrictTwo.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm)

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### **We Want To Hear From You**

The link below will navigate you to a list of meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

[http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG\\_Portal\\_PublicMeetings.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm)

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### **How Can You Participate in Howard County Government?**

Your comments are welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax. All legislative public hearings will take place in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building. Click the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings  
[http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC\\_Legislative\\_CouncilCalendar.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm)

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### **View the Council's Current Legislation**

The County Council is responsible for adopting the laws of the County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link

[http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative\\_Pending.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm)

**\*NOTE:** The County Council will be in legislative recess during the month of August. The next legislative session will be held on Tuesday, September 4, 2007, at 7:30 p.m., Banneker Room, George Howard Building.

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## **The Columbia Association Launch a New Community Calendar**

CA in conjunction with the Villages of Columbia, announce the launch of a new website, [www.ColumbiaCalendar.org](http://www.ColumbiaCalendar.org). This new website has been created to be a resource for the residents of Columbia to find out what is going on in their community. At this time the website is packed with events sponsored by the Columbia Association and the Villages. The Oakland Mills calendar can be found at [http://oaklandmills.columbiavillages.org/OMCA\\_Events\\_Programs.htm](http://oaklandmills.columbiavillages.org/OMCA_Events_Programs.htm)

The Long Reach calendar can be found at [http://oaklandmills.columbiavillages.org/OMCA\\_Events\\_Programs.htm](http://oaklandmills.columbiavillages.org/OMCA_Events_Programs.htm)

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## **Homeowners Tax Credit and Renters Tax Credit Applications- Now Available!**

The 2007 Homeowners Tax Credit and Renters Tax Credit applications are available at: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html>

There is no charge to apply and nothing to lose by doing so.

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## **Boards and Commissions Vacancies**

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to view the following link

[http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC\\_BoardsandCommissions.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm)

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## Who's Digging in Your Community?

Many of our constituents have brought to our attention issues concerning utility contractors digging in their community. Many of these contractors are sub-contractors of major utility companies. To determine the name of the contractor and the utility company they are representing, please go to [www.missutility.net](http://www.missutility.net). This website is very informative and frequently updated with up-to-the-minute information on each and every project involving excavation around utilities.

For additional information, please call Miss Utility at **(410) 712-0056**

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## School Crossing Guards Needed

With the start of the new school year, the Howard County Police Department is looking for School Crossing Guards to help our children safely cross intersections near schools in Howard County. Our Crossing Guards are reliable and responsible adults who interact well with children and are committed to their safety. We want YOU because we currently have openings at your child's school.

Interested? Please click the following link for additional information.  
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/Police/Docs/schoolcrossingguards.pdf>

Or you may contact **Ms. Carol Bess**, School Crossing Guard Supervisor, at **410-313-4754**.

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## BRAC- Get Involved!

The Howard County BRAC Task Force has now moved to into phase II of its work. Phase II will focus on the impact of overall Fort Meade growth on 6 specific areas in Howard County. They are: Work Force Development, Transportation, Education, Infrastructure, Work Force

Housing and Health and Human Services. Residents and business persons of Howard County are invited to participate in the work of the Task Force during this phase. If you are interested, please contact the Executive Director of the HC BRAC Office at [kmenser@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:kmenser@howardcountymd.gov)

The next Howard County BRAC Task Force Meeting will be on **Wednesday, August 22, 2007 from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**. This meeting will be held in **the Tyson Room of the George Howard Building**. These meetings will start with a 15 minute update, given by Executive Director Kent Menser, on BRAC actions related to Howard County. The remainder of the time will be devoted to discussion of ideas, concerns and recommendations raised by the attendees. For any questions on meetings, call Kent Menser at 410-313-6521.

For more information on BRAC please visit [http://www.co.ho.md.us/HCG\\_ExecutiveBRAC.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/HCG_ExecutiveBRAC.htm)

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## **Mandatory Water Restrictions**

Repairs to a major water delivery main in Baltimore County are not yet complete, and it will be necessary for Howard County to put a mandatory outdoor water ban into effect beginning Friday, May 18 until further notice.

The Baltimore County water main delivers a significant amount of drinking water to Howard County. Loss of this key water supply continues to reduce Howard County's ability to meet the additional demand outdoor water use places on the system during warm summer months. In addition, outdoor water restrictions ensure that adequate water supply and pressure are available for basic customer service, especially emergency fire protection. Residents with **PRIVATE WELLS ARE NOT AFFECTED** by these mandatory restrictions.

The outdoor ban will be in effect all day on holidays and weekends beginning at 6 p.m. on Fridays and continuing until midnight on Sundays.

For specific water ban information please visit  
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/portalservices/portaldocs/waterrestrict07.pdf>

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## **Howard County's Commission on the Environment and Sustainability**

One of County Executive Ken Ulman's Administration's signature campaigns is the bold and innovative protection of the environment in Howard County. Step one, according to Ulman, was the creation of the Commission on the Environment and Sustainability.

The Commission holds bi-monthly public meetings to accommodate morning and evening schedules. The next meeting will be Tuesday, **July 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Executive Conference Room of the Gateway Building.** For additional information please go to the Commission's website at [http://www.co.ho.md.us/CES/CES\\_HomePage.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/CES/CES_HomePage.htm) or contact Josh Feldmark at the [Commission on The Environment and Sustainability](#)

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## **National Night Out 2007!**

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out (NNO), a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) has been scheduled for **August 7 2007**. We cordially invite you and your community to be a part of our NIGHT OUT 2007 team

Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over 34 million people participated in NNO 2006.

### **National Night Out is designed to:**

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;

- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns, and neighborhoods ‘celebrate’ NNO with a variety of events and activities such as:

- block parties,
- cookouts,
- visits from local police and sheriff departments,
- parades, exhibits,
- flashlight walks,
- contests, and
- youth programs

Contact your Homeowners Association, nearest Columbia village or the Howard County Police Department Headquarters at 410-313-3200 to check if your community is registered.

If your community has not yet registered, click the following link <http://www.nationalnightout.org/nno/reg.html> to simply complete the online form and submit it. (Note: There is no cost to register or participate).

Please contact our office and share your community’s plans to celebrate National Night Out. You can email us at [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) or call us at **410-313-3105**.

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## **Teens Can Make a Difference -- CA Teen Advisory Committee Looking for New Members**

The Columbia Association Teen Advisory Committee is looking for teens, ages 13-19 to join them in creating events that cater to the interests of teenagers living in Columbia. The goal of the Teen

Advisory Committee is to plan, organize, and implement programs and events that Columbia teens would like to attend. Members are asked to commit to meetings every other Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30pm at CA Headquarters and help out with various events.

Anyone interested in participating as a member of the Teen Advisory Committee should call **410-715-5523** for more information. The committee accepts new members throughout the year.

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## **County Officials Attend MACo Conference**

Representatives of Howard County will join their local government counterparts from throughout the State at the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Annual Summer Conference August 15-18, 2007 in Ocean City, Maryland at the Roland Powell Convention Center.

The conference theme is "Home, Safe Home." Topics include County Financial Management, Homeland Security System Management, Public Health Safety, Thornton and No Child Left Behind Retrospective, Managing Health Insurance Costs, Rating Bonds, Safety on the Road with Senior Drivers, Avoiding Lawsuits in Jails, Traffic Calming Strategies, Community Based Efforts on Gang Control, Public Food Safety Issues, Challenge of Maintaining Roads and Managing Fuel Costs, Avoiding Public Health Catastrophes, Child Support Programs as Public Safety Tools, Interagency Approaches to Child Protective Services, Open Spaces, The Comprehensive Plan, and Smart Growth Challenges and Collaborative Decision Making.

Conference speakers include MD Governor Martin O'Malley who will deliver the closing address. Other prominent public and private sector leaders include, U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin, U.S. Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, Attorney General Doug Gansler, State Treasurer Nancy Kopp, MD Speaker of the House Mike Busch, House Minority Leader Anthony O'Donnell, MD State Delegates Murray Levy, Kathleen Dumais, and MD State Senator Edward Kasemeyer.

The goal of the MACo Summer Conference is to provide county elected and appointed officials and other participants with a clearer perspective on the challenges facing counties and, most important, to provide strategies for addressing these challenges. The ultimate result of attendance is more effective and efficient county government.

Further information and program updates are provided at [www.mdcountries.org](http://www.mdcountries.org)

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## **Environmental Course Offered for Low- to Moderate-Income Residents**

Going environmentally friendly doesn't have to mean spending hundreds on solar panels and a green roof.

The Green Building Institute in Jessup is reaching out to low- and moderate-income Howard residents for a free course on how to save with environmentally friendly practices.

"This class is providing ways they can be part of the discussion," said Hannah Wood, executive director of the institute, an educational nonprofit.

The class, scheduled for December, is free for eligible residents, in part because of a \$3,000 grant from the Columbia Foundation. Classes usually cost \$15 to \$75.

"They're teaching ways in which everyone can be involved, no matter your income level or socioeconomic status," said Candace Dodson Reed, Columbia Foundation's associate director.

It's the "little steps," Wood said, that can help residents save money. Compact florescent light bulbs, for example, may cost several extra dollars in the beginning but can save money in energy costs, she said.

There is space for 40 residents to take the class, and the group wants people to sign up this summer so it can plan the course.

### **ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?**



To take the free Go Green, Save Green course, participants must:

- Live in Howard County
- Make \$25,000 or less for an individual or \$50,000 or less for families

To sign up, call **443-733-1234** or visit **greenbuildinginstitute.org**.

### **IF YOU GO**

What: Go Green, Save Green course

When: 8:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 1

Where: Green Building Institute at the EnviroCenter, 7761 Waterloo Road, Jessup

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## **NEIGHBOR RIDE- Looking for Spanish and Korean Speaking Volunteers!**

Neighbor Ride, a volunteer-based supplemental transportation program, helps residents age 60 and over maintain a good quality of life by providing friendly and reliable door-to-door transportation for medical appointments, religious services, educational pursuits, recreational and social events, exercise classes, and other day-to-day activities.

\* Neighbor Ride is looking for Spanish and Korean speaking volunteers to become drivers who can converse with bi-lingual riders.

For more information and to register for a volunteer orientation, contact Rosemary Noble at 410-884-RIDE, [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) or visit their website at <http://www.neighborride.org/>

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## **US Route 1 State Highway Meeting Materials Now Available**

Following up on the June 18 and June 20 public meetings, the PowerPoint presentation and maps displayed at the meetings are now

posted on Howard County's Web site at  
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DPZ/us1shastrategy.htm>

Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) consultants, Kittelson and Associates, in partnership with Howard County held public informational meetings on SHA's Route 1 Corridor Improvement Strategy. The strategy's focus is transportation improvements to support Howard County's vision for revitalization of the Route 1 corridor.

We hope these materials will help you in understanding the issues and recommendations presented by SHA's consultants so far.

If you have questions you may contact **Dace Blaumanis** at **410-313-4324** or by email [dblaumanis@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:dblaumanis@howardcountymd.gov)

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## **Come Visit the Howard County Fair- August 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> !**

The Howard County Fair is an American tradition of good, wholesome fun including livestock exhibits, carnival rides and games, musical entertainment, educational demonstrations, and an animal petting zoo. The fair hosts daily horse shows, pony rides, tractor pulls, and livestock competitions. Popular contests include the Pretty Baby Contest, Talent Show and Cow Milking Contest. For additional information, please visit [Howard County Fair](#)

### **Location**

Howard County Fairgrounds  
2210 Fairground Road  
West Friendship, Maryland 21794  
(410) 442-1022

### **Fair Hours**

Daily 8 am to 11 pm

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## **2007 Summer Reading Club at the Howard County Library**

Beginning **June 2**, everyone in Howard County, babies to adults, can read for fun and earn prizes!

Read or listen to books from pre-selected reading lists, or choose your own books, magazines, and newspapers. Just kick back, relax, and READ.

Babies – (up to age 3) can join the Read to Me Club with mom, dad, or any adult.

Kids - Put on your seat belts for Reading Roadtrip!

Teens - Join N2BKS and let your imagination zoom!

Adults - Why Should Kids Have all the Fun?

Register at any [branch library](#), or [online](#).